general principles in accordance with which the Director of Public Instruction has drawn up a gradation list which, although it may occasionally operate to the disadvantage of a particular individual, is on the whole fair and reasonable. Any case of individual hardship is of course deserving of special consideration.

In regard to the appointment of headmasters, I told you it should wait upon fixation of the gradation list. Then another question arises. As you know, the headmasters have to be selected with particular care. A headmaster has a great responsibility for which personal characteristics are often determining factors in the selection. The present Director when he took over charge asked me to give him some time to make the personal acquaintance of the suitable candidates before he made his recommendations. That I consider is a very proper and reasonable request and until such time as would allow of a fair knowledge of all the candidates from which the headmasters will be drawn, the appointments should wait. But I think that will not take long now.

I noticed that the Director of Public Instruction was listening with eager interest to what you said on the point of promotions of teachers of vernacular schools, fee concessions and suggestions for the improvement of vernacular literature and as regards text books. This latter was a very interesting statement that you made and I am sure every body in this Assembly listened like myself with considerable interest to what you had to say with your illustrations of "cats" and "flower pots". I have not the slightest doubt that all these matters will receive the earnest attention of the Director of Public Instruction who will bring up his views to the Government in due course.

60. Encouragement of the study of Sanskrit.

MR. M. K. GOVINDAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the Sanskrit language and literature were the common treasures of all Indians. All the Shastras, Vedas, and religious books of India were written in that language. In fact the very heart of India was reflected in the Sanskrit language more than in any other. Among the members of the Ruling Family of Travancore there were many Sanskrit scholars and poets. The Government of Travancore had also done much for the preservation of several ancient works in Sanskrit. The Department for the publication of Sanskrit Manuscripts had already brought to light several valuable works. Government should carry the same spirit of patronage of Sanskrit into the administration of the Education Department and afford due encouragement to the spread of Sanskrit education in the country.

To begin with, the rules of the Education Code should be amended with a view to recognising the Sastri and the Upadhyaya tests in Sanskrit as qualifications for the appointment of teachers in vernacular schools. A candidate who had passed the Sastri test possessed a fairly good knowledge of the Sanskrit language, of Sastras like *Tharkam* and *Vyakaranam*, and of history and geography, besides possessing a knowledge of the English language up to the IV Form standard. But

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

such a candidate was not held fit for a place which holders of Vernacular School Leaving Certificates were declared competent to hold. As for the candidate who had passed the Upadhyaya test, he had made a detailed study of the Sanskrit language and the Sastras and of all the ancient and modern works in Malayalam. He had also studied arithmetic and history up to the standard of the Mukkyapariksha in Malayalam, and acquired a working knowledge of alegbra and geometry, besides studying English at least up to the School Final standard. But the Education Code did not admit of the appointment of such candidates as teachers in vernacular schools.

The pay of Malayalam and Sanskrit Munshies in English schools should be revised. A graduate teacher in an English school started on a pay of Rs. 50 and after qualifying for the L. T. degree became in a few years eligible for a pay Rs. 175. But a Sanskrit Munshi qualifying from the Sanskrit College started on a pay of Rs. 25 and after several years of service could only rise to a maximum pay of Rs. 40. This wide disparity should be removed, and Sankrit and Malayalam Munshies in English schools should be given at least a pay of Rs. 50-70.

The rules of the Travancore Service Regulations should be amended so as to recognise the Siromani examination of the Madras University as a qualification for the appointment of Pandits in the Trivandrum Sanskrit College. Under the existing rules, the qualification prescribed for this appointment was the Mahopadhyaya test to which the Siromani test was in no way inferior. There was also a particular circumstance which had to be brought to notice in this connection. Owing to the denial of admission to some communities in the Trivandrum Sanskrit College, a few candidates had gone abroad and qualified for the Siromani test. It was a pity that these candidates should for no fault of theirs be denied appointment in the Sanskrit College.

Candidates who had passed the Sastri, Upadhyaya tests etc. were on a par with holders of English School Leaving Certificates. They should be appointed as clerks in the Registration, Anchal, Revenue and Judicial Departments and as clerks, Inspectors etc., in the Excise Department.

A Chair for Sanskrit should be established in H. H. the Maharaja's College of Arts.

The grants-in-aid to private Sanskrit schools should be awarded more generously. Government were insisting on very high conditions for granting recognition to such schools. It was only fair that they should be given proportionately high grants-in-aid.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Govindan, the Government are completely at one with you in the value they attach to Sanskrit learning and no less do the Government share with you your enthusiasm for the spread of Sanskrit knowledge.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

You dwelt upon the question of pay given to Sanskrit teachers and compared it with the pay given to teachers in other schools. These are matters of pure expediency, of supply and demand, which the Government pay due attention to in fixing the salaries of their servants. What Goverment pays to their servants is mainly their own affair.

Then you refer to appointment of persons who have passed the Sastri and the Upadhyaya tests as clerks in the Registration, Anchal, Excise and other departments. Of course the language used in the Registration, Anchal, Excise, Police, Public Works, Judiciary, Education and Medical Departments is not Sanskrit. To what extent these men who took the Sastri and Upadyaya tests command knowledge of the languages which are used in these departments will be the test of their eligibility for appointments to these departments.

61. Problems of the Nagercoil Municipality.

MR. A. NAYANAR (*Member, Municipal Council, Nagercoil*) said that good drinking water was very scarce in many parts of the Nagercoil municipality. There were only a few wells in the whole town from which good water could be drawn. The municipality had submitted some schemes to Government for ensuring a good supply of water for the town, but Government had ordered that these schemes should wait till the completion of the Trivandrum water-supply scheme. The completion of the latter scheme was sure to take a long time. In the meantime, however, some temporary arrangements could be made at Nagercoil. A few wells could, for instance, be sunk on the side of the Parakai kal.

In order to relieve the growing over-population and congestion of the town, a town-planning scheme was absolutely necessary. To begin with, it was proposed to acquire selected sites in the western parts of the town, to parcel out the sites into small blocks and to sell them to the people. The proposal would on the whole cost about Rs. 8000. In the eastern parts of the town, however, it was more expensive to acquire sites. Government should help the municipality in this project by granting them liberal loans returnable without interest.

The grant paid by Government to the municipality for the maintenance of roads, which at present stood at Rs. 1,400, should be raised to Rs. 5,000 or 6,000. It might be made a condition that the municipality should take an equal amount from its own funds. At present they were maintaining about 55 out of the 65 miles of roads in the town and spending about Rs. 5,000 from the municipal funds. But that was not enough. The roads were still in a bad condition owing to the heavy traffic that was growing in volume day by day.

A new maternity and child welfare scheme should be introduced for the benefit of the people of Nagercoil. Some parts of the town, as for example, the fishermen's quarters at Kottar, were in a very insanitary condition. The percentage of infantile mortality in these places was appalling. The municipality had already initiated a scheme and started an institution where daily about 80 mothers were meeting. Expectant mothers were given instruction in hygiene,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly